

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 27, 2006. Claims 1, 2, 5 to 12, 15 to 22, 25 to 27, 30 to 32, 35, 36, 39, 40, 43, 44 and 53 to 60 are now pending in the application, with Claims 3, 4, 13, 14, 23, 24, 28, 29, 33, 34, 37, 38, 41, 42, 45 and 46 having been canceled herein, and Claims 53 to 60 having been added herein. Claims 1, 11, 21, 26, 31, 35, 39 and 43 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 11, 21, 26, 31, 35, 39 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly including features not described in the specification. Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, the features in question have either been cancelled or amended herein, and Applicant submits that all elements in the amended claims are fully described in the specification. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,308,205 (Cacerano). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a network managing method for providing a device list that comprises a plurality of records, each record comprising device information corresponding to at least one item of device information, comprising a first designating step of accepting a user designation of an item of at least one device information to be displayed in the device list, from among a plurality of items of predetermined device information capable of being displayed in the device list, a second designating step of accepting a user designation of an item of at least one device information, wherein the plurality of records comprised in the

device list are sorted based on the item of the device information designated by the user in the second designating step, a setting step of setting the item of the device information designated by the user in the second designating step to an item of device information to be displayed in the device list, in a case where the item of the device information is designated by the user in the second designating step, and a display control step of controlling to display the device list that comprises the plurality of records which are sorted based on the item of the device information designated by the user in the second designating step, wherein each of the plurality of records comprises device information corresponding to the item of the device information designated by the user in the first designating step and device information corresponding to the item of the device information designated by the user in the second designating step.

Claims 11, 21 and 26 are apparatus, program, and recording medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

Claim 31 includes features along the lines of Claim 1, but is more specifically directed to a method of providing a data list that displays data that comprises a plurality of records, each record comprising data corresponding to at least one item of data, comprising the steps of a first designating step of accepting a user designation of an item of at least one data to be displayed in the data list, from among a plurality of predetermined items of data capable of being displayed in the data list, a second designating step of accepting a user designation of an item of at least one data, wherein the plurality of records comprised in the data list are sorted based on the item of the data designated by the user in the second designating step, a setting step of setting the item of data designated by the user in the second designating step to an item of data to be displayed in the data list, in a case where the item of data is designated by the user in the second designating step, and a

display control step of controlling to display the data list that comprises the plurality of records which are sorted based on the item of the data designated by the user in the second designating step, wherein each of the plurality of records comprises data corresponding to the item of data designated by the user in the first designating step and data corresponding to the item of the data designated by the user in the second designating step.

Claims 35, 39 and 43 are apparatus, program, and recording medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 31.

The applied art of Carcerano is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 1, 11, 21, 26, 31, 35, 39 and 43, and in particular, is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the features of a first designating step/means of accepting a user designation of an item of at least one device information to be displayed in a device (data) list, from among a plurality of items of predetermined device information (data) capable of being displayed in the device (data) list, and a second designating step of accepting a user designation of an item of at least one device information (data), wherein the plurality of records comprised in the device (data) list are sorted based on the item of the device (data) information designated by the user in the second designating step/means.

Carcerano is merely seen to discloses the a device list (Fig. 6) on which device information, which correspond to the items of a device location, a device model, a device status and the like, is displayed with respect to each device. Here, it should be noted that the present invention essentially aims to be able to change the display form of such a device list based on a user's designation. However, it is impossible in Carcerano to change the display form of the device list based on a user's designation.

More specifically, in Carcerano, it is impossible for a user to designate the item of the device information to be displayed on the device list. In other words, it is

assumed that there are the three items of "device location", "device model" and "device status". In such a case, for example, it is impossible for the user to designate to display on the device list the device information corresponding to the items of "device location" and "device model", but not to display the device information corresponding to the item of "device status". That is, Carcerano is silent about the first designating step (means) of the present invention.

Additionally, in Carcerano, it is impossible to sort each record displayed on the device list based on an arbitrary item, and it is also impossible for the user to designate the relevant arbitrary item. More specifically, it is impossible to sort the respective records of the device list in alphabetical order based on the device information corresponding to the device models. That is, Carcerano is silent about the second designating step (means) of the present invention. Incidentally, Carcerano describes "sorting" at line 10 of column 13. However, this "sorting" implies the function of sorting the output matters when the printer executes printing. Namely, this "sorting" in Carcerano is different from the sorting described in the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, amended independent Claims 1, 11, 21, 26, 31, 35, 39 and 43, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable. As such, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

**THIRD REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CLAIM TO FOREIGN PRIORITY**

Applicant makes a third request that the Examiner provide an indication in the next communication acknowledging Applicant's claim to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and receipt of the certified copy of the priority document.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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